

# State of North Carolina



MICHAEL F. EASLEY  
GOVERNOR

## MARQUIS DE LA FAYETTE DAY

2007

### BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

#### A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Marquis de La Fayette, born on September 6, 1757, is considered a national hero in both France and the United States for his participation in the American and French revolutions and is one of only six Honorary Citizens of the United States; and

WHEREAS, La Fayette served heroically and with distinction during the American Revolution both as a general and as a diplomat, offering his services as an unpaid volunteer; and

WHEREAS, La Fayette's first battle in the American Revolution was at Brandywine, where he fought courageously and was wounded, he also served with distinction in various other engagements to include the surrender of the British army at Yorktown; and

WHEREAS, in 1783 the two colonial villages of Cross Creek and Campbellton were merged by the legislature and named Fayetteville, the first city in the United States named for La Fayette, and the only one named for him that he actually visited; and

WHEREAS, in 1789, the General Assembly and constitutional convention met in Fayetteville where delegates ratified the United States Constitution, chartered the University of North Carolina, and ceded the state's western lands to form the state of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, during La Fayette's tour of the United States as "The Guest of the Nation," he was entertained in Fayetteville on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of March 1825 by the leading citizens of the state and community to include Governor Hutchins G. Burton; and

WHEREAS, upon the death of La Fayette in 1834, the City of Fayetteville held a large memorial service and eloquent eulogium on his character and services; and

WHEREAS, upon the bi-centennial of the naming of Fayetteville in 1983, the La Fayette Society and General La Fayette's great-great grandson, The Count Rene de Chambrun, unveiled a statue of General La Fayette in the Downtown Historic District;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim March 2, 2007, as "MARQUIS DE LA FAYETTE DAY" and commend this observance to all our citizens.



MICHAEL F. EASLEY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capital on this fifteenth day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-first.